CENTRAL VALLEY FLOOD MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROGRAM

FloodSAFE CALIFORNIA

Central Valley Flood Protection Plan

DRAFT Summary
Management Actions Workshop
Operations & Maintenance

July 27, 2010, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Center for Collaborative Policy
815 S Street, First Floor, Sacramento, CA 95811

Participants: 48

Name		Organization
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Susan	*Tatayon*	*The Nature Conservancy*
Alex	*Tollette*	*MWH*
Butch	*Waddle*	*San Joaquin County/Public Works*
Craig	Wallace*	MWH
Gregg	Werner	The Nature Conservancy
Kip	*Young*	*DWR*

*Workshop team
Italic = Attended via webinar

This summary only includes comments made during the workshop. Written comments submitted after the workshop will be available at http://www.water.ca.gov/cvfmp.

Comments and Questions on Draft Initial Management Actions

MA-029: Restore channel form and function to improve O&M and facilitate flood damage reduction.

- Clarify what is meant by "restore."
- In the problem statement be clearer about peak flows, e.g does that include peak flows from upstream reservoir releases?
- Define high, medium and low capital cost.
- Capital cost is project dependent.
- Define channelization, and explain how this is consistent with the MA title: Restore channel from and function.
- Explain how this measure enhances habitat/species ability to handle extreme events. (Technical)

MA-030: Perform clearing and snagging within channels.

- Woody debris is also good fish habitat – use as an example in the problem statement.
- There is a major ESA conflict with removal of woody debris. It is also important for plants in the Delta.
- Litigation and mitigation are potential costs. Q. How is the estimate for implementation low? A. It is low because it is considered "normal" maintenance (removal of debris in normal flow time).
- Cost estimates may need to be reconsidered as deferred maintenance and higher costs may be associated in certain areas.
- Liability should be added to economic considerations.
- Based on the current condition of Sacramento and San Joaquin systems, there would be considerable change in risks. From a flood control perspective it may be positive, but potentially negative on the environmental side. There needs to be a balance.
- Impacts will depend on where in the Delta the changes are occurring (site specific management plans) so it needs to be looked at as a system.

- Residual risk is a little different than traditional Corps policy. This seems to be asking whether these MA's impact anything beyond "normal" risk. The Reader's guide should more clearly explain residual risk.
- Specify how permitting requirements are a disadvantage. E.g. time required to get permits? Restrictive permitting windows?

MA-031: Perform dredging to remove sediment from channels.

- Some areas have benefits while others have no benefit from the same Management Action – there will need to be some local clarification.
- Some areas are not surveyed so there is a problem with that.
- "Rock" should be restated as "cobbles and boulders" if meant as sediment (in the problem statement.)
- Not sure we want to increase channel capacity, rather we want to restore and maintain the design capacity.
- Complex, time consuming and expensive permitting requirements should be stated as a disadvantage.
- There would be a significant change in cost with this MA in place – it would be higher.
- Scour in the system is problematic and needs to be factored in to economic considerations.
- Potential environmental effects would be permanent rather than temporary.
- Will restore the design level of residual risk.

MA-032: Reuse excess materials derived from channel maintenance.

- Materials can be used in a variety of ways (remove "and cleaning and snagging" from problem statement.
- Waste materials from limited dredging can and should be used where appropriate.
- Check all the boxes.
- There is a significant change in cost to use dredge spoils and the processing requirements.
- There could be negative environmental effects or even positive benefits - it depends on circumstances.
- Under permitting, there may be some permits required.

MA-033: Develop regional vegetation management plans.

- This MA needs to be dealt with more thoroughly.
- Change title to: Develop regional channel conveyance management plan.
- Break up into two different management actions since the Resources Agency and Corps have such different vegetation policies.
- One option is to have one focused on channel vegetation and one on levee vegetation.
- The desired outcome reflects the correct issue, but the title and description don't accurately reflect it.
- The only piece missing is the channel conveyance portion and accordance with O&M manuals.

MA-034: Improve administration of encroachment permits.

- Change title to: Develop an improved encroachment management program endorsed by the state.

- We should not encourage any encroachments.
- There is a lack of standards for encroachment permits so broaden this MA to be clearer.
- Develop a handbook that covers related permit requirements, management process, points of contacts, example documents, and submittal requirements and ensure it is user-friendly.
- Board's (CVFPB) budget should be approved in accordance with permit demand and backlog.
- CVFPB should say no when they need to say no – rather than streamlining the encroachment process – we need to refocus their mission.
- An advantage may be that it will shorten permit "action" time – not "approval" time.

MA-035: Improve administration and oversight of levee penetrations.

- There is a lack of standards for what is allowed. Construction standards are needed.

MA-036: Improve interior drainage.

- Economic and Environmental considerations are project dependent.
- What is "normal" as listed under economic and permitting considerations?
- Under technical considerations, what is in it? How do you manage it at non-peak flows? (Retained water)

MA-037: Protect vulnerable levees and banks through stabilization and erosion repairs.

- Conflicts with MA -031.
- Methodology should include repair that includes current geomorphic, and existing and future land use, not just flushing mining debris.
- Major driver is the people – not a meandering system.
- Complex, time consuming and expensive permitting should be listed in the disadvantage column.
- Check the ecosystem box.
- Change Damage in the disadvantage column – it should be temporary.
- Strike the word "new" from Corps Vegetation Policy in last sentence of "Adverse impact" under environmental considerations section. Replace "new" with "previously unenforced."
- There is potential for reducing adverse environmental impacts.
- Difference between wet levees and dry levees – include technical considerations for both.
- There is potential for redirected hydraulic impacts.

MA-038: Revise O&M manuals and inspection criteria to promote best maintenance practices that support multi-benefits of the flood system.

- Option 1: Change title to: Revise O&M manuals to be consistent with new and current policies that support multi-benefits of the flood system.
- Option 2: OR Provide an addendum to O&M manuals that promote best maintenance practices.

MA-083: Effectively maintain and operate closure structures.

- Add "and rehabilitate" after operate in the title.
- Take out the word "new" and replace it with "replacement" before closure structures in the first sentence under Desired Outcome.

- Closure structures cost are potentially high to design and install.
- There will be environmental impacts and it should be project dependent.
- Likelihood of implementation – There may be some institutional resistance, but mostly project specific.

Suggestions for New Management Actions

- Compliance with the USACE operation manual and levee inspection criteria
- Develop standards to guide habitat restoration encroachments into the designated floodway (can be stand alone, or included in regional management for conveyance)
- Develop and implement structure rehabilitation and repair program. (Hydraulic structures approx. 70 years old)